

MICHIGAN WATERFRONT ALLIANCE, Inc.

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March 24, 2009

The Honorable Rebekah Warren
State Representative
S 0987 House Office Building
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909-7514

Dear Representative Warren:

The Michigan Waterfront Alliance supports HB 4199 and we urge the Great Lakes and Environment Committee to report the bill favorably. House Bill 4199 adds much-needed enforcement provisions to state law to stop the transport of invasive aquatic plants.

As I'm sure you're aware, invasive aquatic species threaten the quality of our lakes, rivers and streams. Although much has been done to raise public awareness of the problem, the launching of boats in and out of waterways is where the "rubber meets the road." HB 4199 would allow law enforcement officers to order the removal of all aquatic plants from a boat, equipment or trailer thus greatly enhancing efforts to stop the spread of invasive aquatic species. While not all aquatic plants are invasive, and this bill does not distinguish between invasive and non-invasive species, we feel that requiring removal of all aquatic plants is a practical solution to the problem.

House Bill 4199 is long overdue. Please don't delay protection of our waterways any further.

Sincerely,

Bob Frye, President

Michigan Waterfront Alliance